

Westampton Township



2016 Budget

Questions or Comments

Contact: Donna Ryan, Township Administrator

609.267.1891 ext.6

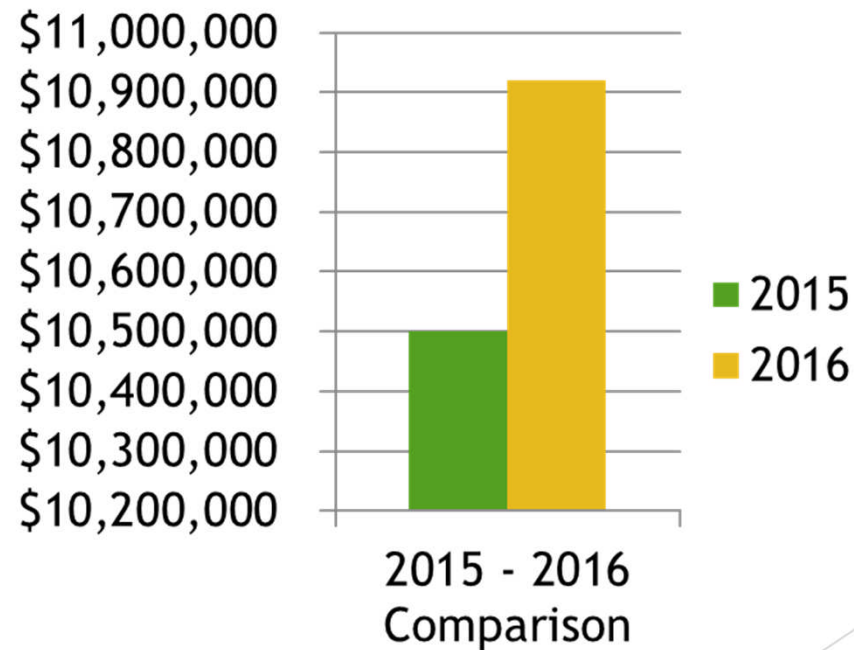
2016 BUDGET INTRODUCTION

- ▶ Township Committee Meeting: 2/16/16
Municipal Building, 710 Rancocas Rd.
7:00 P.M.
- ▶ Budget Information to be posted On Township
Website: www.westampton.com
- ▶ Copy available at Clerk's Office.

BUDGET OVERVIEW

- ▶ 2015 Budget \$10,499,382
- ▶ 2016 Budget \$10,918,885.63
 - ▶ (Proposed budget which does not include \$319,060 in cuts already secured by the Twp. Committee)

2016 is \$419,503 **MORE** than **2015**



Budget Comparison, 2012-2016

Budget Comparison, 2012 to 2016 - Preliminary Budget figures

Budget Line Item	2012 Budget	2013 Budget	2013 % Change	2014 Budget	2014 % Change	2015 Budget	2015 % Change	2016 Budget	Change '15 to '16	2016 % Change
Salaries and Wages	4,356,541	4,394,178	0.9	4,462,953	1.6	4,637,648	3.9	4,764,314	126,666	2.7
Pension Cost	695,085	744,610	7.1	740,552	-0.5	818,882	10.6	869,898	51,016	6.2
Health Care Cost	820,100	877,466	7.0	946,000	7.8	978,049	3.4	1,051,023	72,974	7.5
Department Expenses	470,650	469,700	-0.2	493,930	5.2	514,500	4.2	504,760	-9,740	-1.9
Fixed Costs	1,863,423	1,766,687	-5.2	1,766,215	0.0	1,834,840	3.9	1,814,655	-20,185	-1.1
Reserve for Uncollected Taxes	401,782	503,282	25.3	530,362	5.4	672,262	26.8	671,981	-281	0.0
Capital Improvement Fund	74,100	78,700	6.2	100	-99.9	40,000		40,000	0	0.0
Debt Service:	489,150	550,725	12.6	604,624	9.8	188,296	-68.9	585,571	397,275	211.0
Tax Appeal Refunds	0	0	0.0	251,000	0.0	108,000	100.0	0	-108,000	-100.0
Grants and Shared Services	555,761	457,647	-17.7	751,971	64.3	727,603	-3.2	699,312	-28,291	-3.9

Department Costs are the operating expenses for each department - Police, EMS, Administration, PW, etc.

Fixed Costs include trash, insurances, fire hydrant fees, utilities, fuel, audit, engineering, legal expenses, payroll taxes, etc.

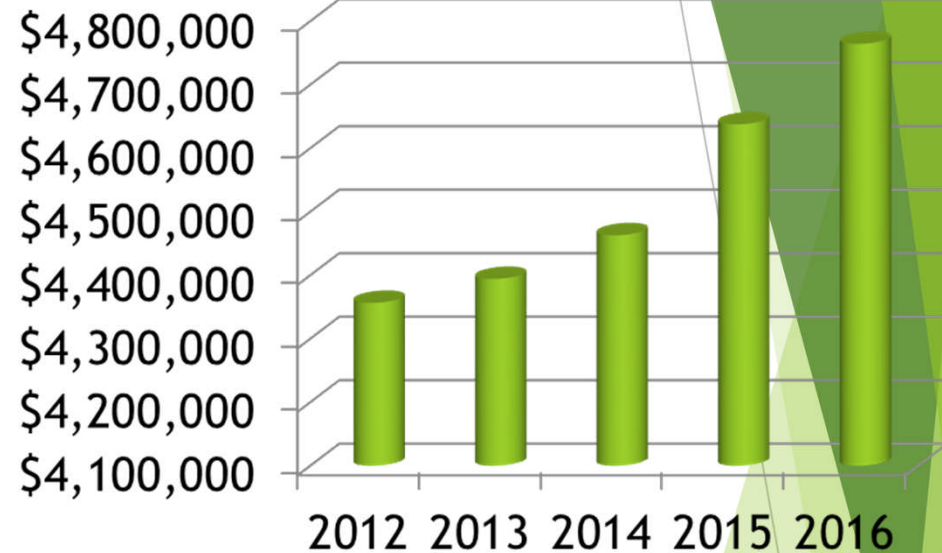
Debt Service includes payment for bonding of vehicles including dump trucks, fire trucks, ambulances; heavy equipment, small equipment for EMS and Police; Road Contracts

Grants and Shared Services are not an expense in the budget; revenues are received for these items

TOTAL SALARIES - 5 PAST YEARS

- ▶ 2016: \$4,764,314 (Proposed)
- ▶ 2015: \$4,637,648
- ▶ 2014: \$4,462,953
- ▶ 2013: \$4,394,178
- ▶ 2012: \$4,356,541

Salaries and Wages



Differences:

2016 is \$126,666 **MORE** than 2015. Most increases are contractual, agreements approved prior to 2016. All of these increases are being scrutinized by the Twp. Committee.

TOWNSHIP DEBT

- ▶ Total Township Debt is: **\$4,469,000**
- ▶ Total Open Space Debt: **\$2,358,841**
- ▶ Debt payment due in 2016 is: **\$585,571**
 - ▶ An increase of \$397,275 when compared against 2015. Township's Bond Anticipation Notes (BANs) were consolidated into a 9 year permanent payment. = 3.4 cent tax increase
- ▶ Other budget items increased totaling \$168,841 over last year with the 2% cap. = 1.5 cent tax increase
 - ▶ These items include but are not limited to Debt servicing, Capital expenses, Salary & Wages, Healthcare, Operating Expenses, Social Security, Trash Collection, among other expenses.

MAXIMUM TAX WITHIN 2% TAX CAP LAW

- ▶ 4.9 cent increase in the tax rate - due to increase in debt, capital, health and pension increases.
- ▶ An average house is assessed at \$242,271.
 - ▶ A 4.9 cent tax increase means a yearly increase of \$118.72



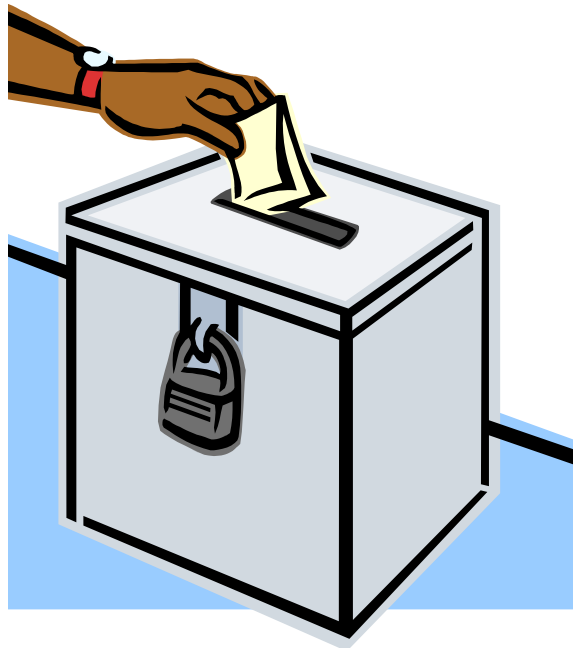
Total Ratables & Tax Bill Breakdown

- ▶ Total Ratables in 2015: \$1,146,278,979
- ▶ Total Ratables in 2016: \$1,155,340,830
- ▶ Tax Bill Breakdown:
 - ▶ County 17.4%
 - ▶ Local School 38.3%
 - ▶ Regional Sch. 17.3%
 - ▶ Township 27%



2% TAX CAP LEVY LAW

- ▶ 2016 BUDGET IS IN COMPLIANCE
- ▶ NO BALLOT QUESTION TO EXCEED CAP
 - ▶ NOT SEEKING TO EXCEED TAXING CAP



OPTIONS TO REDUCE TAX INCREASE

- ▶ Elimination or Reduction of Township Services.
 - ▶ Reduction In Force (RIF)
- ▶ Take a more aggressive approach in smart development, to increase the township's ratables.



BEST PRACTICES

- ▶ Must develop a 5-10 year strategic plan for the town.
- ▶ Continue to identify areas where we can cut costs and stabilize taxes
- ▶ Must implement multi-year budget forecasting which will allow officials to prepare for increased costs, such as the consistent rise in pension and healthcare costs, in advance.
 - ▶ This practice incorporates smart fiscal planning and a long-term budget outlook to identify potential expenditures and savings and to gradually correct past imbalances.
 - ▶ It's standard practice in the private sector, but few townships implement it.

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